

Fact Sheet on Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

Overview: UASI Program funds address the unique planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density Urban Areas, and assist them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.

Program Requirements: The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) will be responsible for the administration of the FY07 UASI program.

Virginia Program: Virginia currently has two areas defined as USAI. In 2002 the National Capital Region (NCR) established a UASI with the participating Virginia localities including cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William. This UASI has continued to receive funding and considered a Tier I USAI. Also in 2002 the Richmond metro area was designed a UASI and received funds. However, Richmond was removed from the UASI designation list in 2003 and their funding has not continued.

In January 2007 the Department of Homeland Security designated the cities of Norfolk, Newport News, Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, and Hampton as a new national UASI.

Governance: In order for the Virginia UASI area to be eligible for grant funds it must design a governance structure that will be responsible for coordinating development and implementation of all program initiatives, in concert with VDEM. The cities named by DHS as part of the UASI must be included in this governance structure. The guidance on UASI governance structure continues to explain that the required localities can then include those within a 10-mile radius. In addition, the localities also have the ability to add other jurisdictions if those localities have been included in other partnerships and a working relationship already exists that would benefit the UASI. DHS does not have to approve an UA that has included more jurisdictions.

The governance body, known as the UASI Working Group, must include local MMRS and Citizen Corps Council representatives. Furthermore the governing body should include Hampton Roads Transit, the Virginia Port Authority, and other public transportation bodies as functional sub-committees to their organization. An overview of the governance structure and a list of members and their associated jurisdictions must be provided with the grant application.

Authorized Program Expenditures

- Allowable Planning Costs
 - Public Education and Outreach
 - Develop and implement homeland security support programs and adopt ongoing DHS National Initiatives
 - Develop and enhance plans and protocols
 - Develop and conduct assessments
 - Establish, enhance, or evaluate Citizen Corps related volunteer programs
 - Hiring of full- or part-time staff or contract/consultants to assist with planning activities (not for the purpose of hiring public safety personnel fulfilling traditional public safety duties)
 - Conferences to facilitate planning activities
 - Materials required to conduct planning activities
 - Travel/per diem related to planning activities
 - Overtime and backfill costs (IAW operational Cost Guidance)
 - Other project areas with prior approval from G&T
- Allowable Organizational Activities
 - Overtime for information investigative, and intelligence sharing activities (up to 25 percent of the allocation)
 - Reimbursement for select operational expenses associated with increased security measures at critical infrastructure sites incurred during periods of DHS-declared Code Orange
 - Hiring of contractors/consultants for participation in information/intelligence analysis and sharing groups or fusion center activities (limited to 25 percent of allocation)

NOTE: No more than 25 percent of gross amount of an UASI allocation may be used for operational expenses and overtime costs across the three identified operational activities.
- Allowable Equipment Categories
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Explosive Device Mitigation and Remediation Equipment
 - CBRNE Operational Search and Rescue Equipment

- Information Technology
- Cyber Security Enhancement Equipment
- Interoperable Communications Equipment
- Detection Equipment
- Decontamination Equipment
- Medical Supplies and Limited Pharmaceuticals
- Power Equipment
- CBRNE Reference Materials
- CBRNE Incident Response Vehicles
- Terrorism Incident Prevention Equipment
- Physical Security Enhancement Equipment
- Inspection and Screening Systems
- Agriculture Terrorism Prevention, Response, and Mitigation Equipment
- CBRNE Response Watercraft
- CBRNE Aviation Equipment
- CBRNE Logistical Support Equipment
- Intervention Equipment
- Other Authorized Equipment
- Allowable Training Costs
 - Overtime and backfill for emergency preparedness and response personnel attending G&T-sponsored and approved training classes and technical assistance programs
 - Overtime and backfill expenses for part-time and volunteer emergency response personnel participating in G&T training
 - Training workshops and conferences
 - Full- or part-time staff or contractors/consultants
 - Travel
 - Supplies
 - Tuition for Higher Education
 - Other items
- Allowable Exercise Related Costs
 - Design, Develop, Conduct and Evaluate an Exercise
 - Exercise planning workshop
 - Full- or part-time staff or contractors/consultants
 - Overtime and backfill costs, including expenses for part-time and volunteer emergency response personnel participating in G&T exercises
 - Implementation of HSEEP
 - Travel
 - Supplies
 - Other items
- Allowable Management and Administrative Costs
 - Hiring of full- or part-time staff or contractors/consultants to assist with the management of the respective grant program, application requirements, compliance with reporting and data collection requirements
 - Development of operating plans for information collection and processing necessary to respond to G&T data calls
 - Overtime and backfill costs
 - Travel
 - Meeting related expenses
 - Authorized office equipment
 - Recurring expenses such as those associated with cell phones and faxes during the period of performance of the grant program
 - Leasing or renting of space for newly hired personnel during the period of performance of the grant program

NOTE: Up to 15% of the program funds may be used to support the hiring of full or part-time personnel to conduct program activities that are allowable under the FY 2007 HSGP (i.e., planning, training program management, exercise program management, etc.)